Hi Jean,

There is no way that I could ever express the overwhelming joy I felt when I opened your packette this morning!! I didnt mean to put you to so much trouble but I want you to know that it is sincerely appreciated!! I also received the books this morning. I think they are some of the best reference material that I have seen on this area. I intend to purchase all of your volumes and donate them to our local library at Purvis. (AFTER I've gleaned every single piece of material from them that I may need!!)

You were right on target with the Gardner"s!! I noticed that Mose(s) Gardner (Jr.) was married twice. First to a Jane Hinson in Greene County, second to a Mollie Taylor in Copiah County. Do you think that it is possible that he may have been married a THIRD time? A friend found a record of a marriage between Moses and a Henrietta Bolton in Clarke County in 1885 and I notice that you have also made a note of it. I know from my uncles birth certifcate that my grandfather, Fred, was born in Clarke Co. in 1892 to Moses and Molly. I remember as a child, overhearing my grandmother (paternal, the only grandparent still living when I was born) telling her sister that one of Moses "indian" sons from Leaksville, had come to vist her the day before. She would not talk to any of us grandchildren about the Gardner side at all and literally hated my ggrandmother, Mollie. She did however make each of us learn by rote the Boone family. (Her side!!) At the time I always thought it was punishment but now I'm glad she was so strict. (My father once said he thought it was punishment too until she started using a hickory stick!)

On the Purvis's side, a friend brought by a copy of the 1860 Smith County census with a listing for a T.J. Purvis (I belive that is correct although I'm not too good at deciphering old style handwriting yet). Under this listing was a Newton age 6, which would have been probably correct for Issac Newton Purvis at that time. Since this is the only I.N. Purvis he could find in the state of Mississippi or Alabama at that time, I assume that this must be my ggrandfather. Problem, on his death certifcate his father/mother is listed as "Jim" Purvis born in Miss. to a Mary Parker born in Lousiana. On the census, the wife is listed as a Emily ____ from N.C. ! Could this have been an error or could my grandfather (Will Purvis) his son have made a mistake?

Thank you very much for including the names and addresses of people interested in this group of people! My physical inability to research for myself over the past few years have been frustrating. I would not have made it if it were not for the kindness of professionals like yourself and the few meager contacts I have made and become good friends with, Thankfully, I have made a great deal of progress in the past few months with the help of physical therapist (Torture Maidens!!) and some surgery. I can walk some now and am leaving the house for a couple of hours everyday. My main problem is transportation. I've relied on my son to carry me where I needed to go since he got his license but now that he is getting married I have to learn to drive all over again. Hopefully I'll be able to meet you in person in a few months and use your library resources!!

I am very interested in the Gardner problem and if you can suggest anything I might do I would be very grateful. Again, thank you so much for all that you did! It is truly

appreciated. I am enclosing my charts that are up to date and a copy of the Smith Co. census. I have not received PAF yet and am still using Family Tree by Softdisk so I apoligize for the poor quality. I'm also including copies of death certificates on my grandparents and ggrandparents where available. Please feel free to use this information any way you'd like if you think it might help. Sincerely,

your friend,

John

JOHN F. GARDNER SR.
336 S. MILLCREEK RD.
PURVIS, MS. 39475

PHONE: 254-9316

THE GARDNERS

1768-1968

BY

MARIE GARDNER SMITH (MRS. L. M.)

CRYSTAL SPRINGS, MISSISSIPPI 39059

Having done research on the Gardners of South Carolina and Miss. for fifteen years or more, I have found that Polly Gardner, b. 1768, Widow of, possibly, William Gardner of the Old Cheraws dist. of S. C. Came to Miss. around 1820 or 21 with her four sons; William C. b. 1792; Stephen b. 1798; Aaron b. ca 1800; German Howard b. 1807-8 and a daughter, Sarah. I was told that Polly was a Crosby before marriage. (Polly is a nickname for Mary.)

William C. Gardner married Mary Elizabeth Berry, Stephen married Sarah Miles, Aaron Married Elizabeth McNease, German Howard married Emily (Milly) Walker. Sarah married a Scarborough.

William C. and Mary E. Gardner settled near Bassfield, Miss. and raised a large family. Stephen and Sarah Gardner came to Simpson Co. around 1837 and settled below Magee, Miss. They had no children. Stephen willed his property to his nephew, Wilk Gardner. Aaron and Elizabeth Gardner were in Marion Co. Miss. until 1842 when they removed their letters from the Church. They went, possibly, to Fla. or Ark. They had four children at that time. (Aaron paid taxes in Miss. until they removed their letters from the Church. There is no record of his having paid any more taxes in Miss. after 1842.) German Howard and Milly Gardner bought land in Lawrence County from John Berry in 1844 and sold it to R. T. Berry in 1847, when they moved over the line into Simpson Co. Milly's father, Rev. Francis Walker, died in 1846 and when the estate was settled I assume Milly claimed her inheritance as that is about the time they moved near his home. They are buried on the Old Francis Walker place in a family cemetery. Stephen and wife are buried on his old home place, near the Walker place. I have not been able to find a trace of Sarah after she removed her letter from the Church in 1839

German Howard and Milly raised a large family. Their Daughter, Mary Ann, married her first cousin, Wilkin W. Gardner, son of William C. and Mary E. Gardner.

I believe the William Gardner on the 1800 Federal Census of Darlington Co., S. C. is our ancestor, the husband of Polly. He and Joshua are the only Gardners that had three sons under ten at that time, on that census record. I was able to secure the estate papers of Joshua and eliminate those sons. I, also, believe that the John, Aaron, Stephen, and Joshua Gardner on this 1800 Census Record were brothers of William and uncles of our William, Stephen, Aaron and German Howard and Sarah. However, I have not been able to find any records to confirm this, nor have I been able to find them on a later record.

Since writing the above I have had the 1850 Census Record of Ark. and Texas checked for Aaron and Elizabeth, but did not find them. They could have gone to Fla. or La.

Crystal Springs, Miss.
Aug. 22. 1971

Dear Patsy:

Its good to know that some one of the younger generation is interested in the Gardners. I think I was always interested and, as I was growing up would talk to my father, John, about the Gardners. but he couldn't tell me very much. So what info I have is what I have "dug" up the hard way. I told Ree I had considered having it published but, frankly, I'm not financially able to do it so he suggested all that were interested to contribute $10.00 toward the cost, and he has started the fund. I don't know how far I will get with it. If I don't get enough to have my records published I will have a copy prep for all who contribute.

I am enclosing a resume of the Gardner History as I have found records of. Your father, as you said is the Son of Luther S. Gardner Luther was the Son of Wilkin W Gardner whose wife was his first Cousin, Mary Ann Gardner. Wilkin W Gardner was the Son of William C. Gardner and Mary Elizabeth Berry. I am still trying to find who William C. father was. His mother was Mary (Polly) Crosby(?) Gardner. Elizabeth Berry was the daughter of John #1 Berry. Ann was the daughter of German Howard Gardner, Bro to William

and Emily (Milly) Walker Gardner. Milly was the daughter of Rev. Francis Walker and Charity Bush. Francis Walker was the Son of Isaac Walker and Lady Elizabeth Stuart both from Scotland. He was a Rev. Soldier and my DAR Ancestor. Charity Bush was the daughter of Richard Bush and Mary Prescott. He was a Patriot in the Rev. and his record has been established.

Perhaps if you have time you may see if the 1850 Census record of La, Fla, or Miss. has been indexed and if so check them for Aaron, As I stated in the resume he disappear in 1842 when he removed his letter from the Church, I believe he will show up on an 1850 Census some where. I've checked all the Counties in Miss. that were indexed but failed to find him and he wasn't on the Tax Roll of Miss after 1842 and that is why I believe he left Miss. If the LDS Library doesn't have them perhaps the Dept of Archives and History does. I had the 1850 Census Records checked of Tenn and Ark. but failed to find him.

Yes, I'm proud of the Gardners, In all my research I didn't find anything to be ashamed of except on June 3 1837 Uncle Stephen Gardner was excommunicated from the Church from the act of adultery! My how times have changed!

When I was growing up and before we left weatherly I visited in your fathers home many times and spent the night. I don't guess

he remembers, as I don't remember him. My father and his father were Cousins and Cousin Luther was with My father When My father died in 1928 Suddenly. He had eaten dinner with us that day. My Grand father was also a Minister Rev. J.F. Gardner. I have found Plenty of Preachers and educators in our family Back ground but no Money ha!

Was so sorry to hear about Roy's Condition He is such a Nice Person.

If you have gotten any father book on the Gardners let me know.

Oh yes. I have a granddaughter who was 18 Sat. She will attend Miss State next year I have two Sons - no daughters - 3 grand Sons and 4 grand daughters. My oldest Son, Robert, lives in Jackson, and my younger, Gene, in Memphis, they both travel and Gene called me from Baton Rouge on one trip there this year and asked me if I knew any one there So now I can give him your address and maybe he will have time to look you up.

I, too, would love to meet you, perhaps some day our paths will cross.

I hope I've helped you. My dates go back to 1768 -

Sincerely and Lovingly
your Cousin
Marie.

seems you and I are 2nd Cousins once removed.